

## MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(24)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

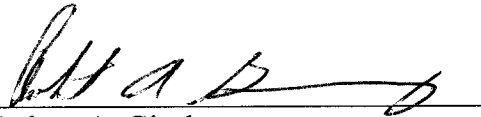
**DATE:** April 5, 2005

**FROM:** Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution urging Florida  
Legislature to adopt H.J.R.  
79 and S.J.R. 1430 to freeze  
tax assessments on property  
of qualifying senior citizens

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Commissioner Natacha Seijas, Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Senator Javier D. Souto.

  
Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

RAG/bw




# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: April 5, 2005

FROM:   
Robert A. Ginsburg  
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 11(A)(24)

Please note any items checked.

- ☐ "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- ☐ 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- ☐ 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- ☐ Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- ☐ Budget required
- ☐ Statement of fiscal impact required
- ☐ Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- ☐ Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- ☐ Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- ☐ No committee review

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Agenda Item No. 11(A)(24)  
4-5-05

RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION URGING THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE TO  
ADOPT HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 79 AND SENATE  
JOINT RESOLUTION 1430, WHICH WOULD PROPOSE A  
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT TO FREEZE THE TAX  
ASSESSMENTS ON PROPERTY OF QUALIFYING SENIOR  
CITIZENS RECEIVING HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

**WHEREAS**, property values continue to rise at a healthy pace in Miami-Dade County;  
and

**WHEREAS**, senior citizens, particularly those on fixed-incomes, are least able to afford  
the resulting increased property taxes even with the additional \$25,000 homestead exemption  
provided by Article VII, Section 6(f), of the Florida Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board does not have the authority under the Florida Constitution to  
freeze tax assessments on property of qualifying senior citizens receiving homestead exemption;  
and

**WHEREAS**, a constitutional amendment approved by the Florida voters would be  
necessary to freeze tax assessments on the property of senior citizens meeting the requirements  
set forth in Article VII, Section 6(f), of the Florida Constitution; and

**WHEREAS**, Representative Juan Zapata (R-Miami) has filed House Joint Resolution 79  
and Senator Mike Haridopolos (R-Melbourne) has filed Senate Joint Resolution 1430 for the  
2005 legislative session; and

**WHEREAS**, H.J.R. 79 and S.J.R. 1430 would put the issue of freezing tax assessments  
on the property of senior citizens before the voters of Florida at the next statewide election,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:**

**Section 1.** This Board urges the Florida Legislature to pass House Joint Resolution 79 and/or Senate Joint Resolution 1430, which would propose a constitutional amendment freezing tax assessments on the property of senior citizens meeting the requirements set forth in Article VII, Section 6(f), of the Florida Constitution.

**Section 2.** The Clerk of the Board is directed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the Chair and members of the Miami- Dade County State Legislative Delegation.

**Section 3.** This Board directs the County's state lobbyists to advocate for the passage of the legislation set forth in section 1 above, and directs the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to include this item in the federal and state legislative packages.

The foregoing resolution was sponsored by Commissioner Natacha Seijas, Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Commissioner Carlos A. Gimenez, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan, Chairman Joe A. Martinez and Senator Javier D. Souto and offered by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner \_\_\_\_\_ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Joe A. Martinez, Chairman	
Dennis C. Moss, Vice-Chairman	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	Carlos A. Gimenez
Sally A. Heyman	Barbara J. Jordan
Dorrian D. Rolle	Natacha Seijas
Katy Sorenson	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairman thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2005. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

JMM

Jess M. McCarty

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